

ORDER OF THE ARROW

Cub Scout Service Guide



Southern Region
Boy Scouts of America

“By supporting and enhancing the Cub Scout program, the Order of the Arrow invests in its own future; enthusiastic Cub Scouts become actively involved Boy Scouts- the lifeblood of our Order”

- T. Alex Gomez, 2007 Southern Region Chief



TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION.....	1
CHAPTER 1 – OVERVIEW & BENEFITS	2
Goals of Cub Scout Service.....	2
Benefits for Cub Scouts.....	2
Benefits for OA Brothers.....	2
CHAPTER 2 – INVOLVEMENT.....	3
Chapter Involvement.....	3
Lodge Involvement	3
Section Involvement	3
Cub Scout Chairman	4
CHAPTER 3 – CEREMONIES.....	5
About the Ceremonies.....	5
Ceremony #1	6
Ceremony #2	11
CHAPTER 4 – CUB SCOUT OPEN HOUSE.....	14
About the Open House.....	14
Preparing for the Event	14
Presentations.....	14
Evaluation.....	15
CHAPTER 5 – OTHER ASSISTANCE METHODS.....	16
Camping Events	16
Membership Recruitment Display Box.....	17
Where to Go Guide.....	17
Camping Resources for Pack Leaders.....	18
Promoting Outdoor Program.....	18
APPENDIX A – OA CUB SCOUT INVOLVEMENT AWARD	19
APPENDIX B – OUTDOOR WEEKEND SCHEDULE	20
APPENDIX C – EVENT PLANNING GUIDE.....	21
APPENDIX D – 6 MONTH CALENDAR	23
APPENDIX E – EVENT PLANNING BACKDATER.....	24
APPENDIX F – SAMPLE LETTER	25

INTRODUCTION

Guidance, support and direction from experienced, mature Arrowmen is beneficial to both the Cub Scouting program and the Order of the Arrow. Each year, local scout councils lose hundreds of boys during the transition between Webelos and Boy Scouts. The Order of the Arrow realizes the importance of keeping youngsters energized in a program which encourages character, personal development, and physical fitness. Local Order of the Arrow lodges can give aid and support to existing council Cub Scout activities. In this capacity, lodges will be providing service to their council. A lodge may also choose to plan and develop tailored programs benefiting local youth. The most effective way Arrowmen can support Cub Scouting is by being visible, setting the proper example, and being enthusiastic missionaries of the Scouting program.

Lodge ceremony teams may add a native American aspect to Cub pack gatherings by performing Arrow of Light and cross-over ceremonies. Public relation activities will not only provide a meaningful experience for the honorees, but may also be used to promote a local troop. In addition, lodge dance teams may visit packs during Blue and Gold dinners; major family events; program kick-offs and pack award banquets.

Lodge election teams may choose to visit Scout troops to help run a successful troop open house. Arrowmen will inspire Cubs to continue their journey through the Scouting movement and will serve as a key retention tool. Cub Scouts witnessing such performances may aspire to serve similar roles when they become older, providing potential membership to a lodge.

Lodge and chapters may prefer to sponsor an activity for council packs. Some lodges may choose to host an event for second-year Webelos working on their Arrow of Light. Arrowmen can guide Webelos in an "Arrow Quest" weekend which can demonstrate the new and exciting activities offered in Boy Scouts. Exhibits in open-fire cooking, pioneering projects, orientation courses, and first aid will help Webelos earn their Arrow of Light and equally important, excite them about the endless possibilities in Boy Scouting.

A native American event could also be hosted. Crafting, beading and dancing sessions in the morning could be followed by dance demonstrations and a mini pow-wow in the afternoon. Some may choose a day demonstration on how native Americans lived, cooked and entertained. Hosting a native American event would bring a colorful, new culture to Cub Scouts.

The Cub Scout and Boy Scout programs build leaders and self sufficient youth. Coupling knowledgeable Arrowmen with eager young Cub Scouts will ensure a beneficial program for youth across the country. Aiding in Cub Scout activities will increase membership retention and provide an opportunity for lodge members to serve their council.

Chapter 1

OVERVIEW & BENEFITS

GOALS OF CUB SCOUT SERVICE

- **Mentoring:** To mentor inexperienced Pack leadership and to promote leadership opportunities for Arrowmen.
- **Membership:** To serve an integral role in the Council's year round membership recruitment and retention plan.
- **Outdoor Programming:** To help facilitate short and long term outdoor programming opportunities.
- **Training:** To assist in various Scouting training opportunities which will help provide Cub Scouts with trained leadership.

BENEFITS FOR CUB SCOUTS

- Cub Scouts see Boy Scouts in action and emulate them.
- Cub Scouts see camping skills demonstrated by older youth.
- Cub Scouts participate in quality outdoor programs.
- Cub Scouts see themselves as future Arrowmen and are encouraged to continue in Scouting.
- Cub Scouts have fun with older boys.
- Cub Scouts see Arrowmen as positive role models.
- Cub Scouts develop friendships with Boy Scouts.

BENEFITS FOR OA BROTHERS

- Arrowmen can be role models for Cub Scouts.
- Arrowmen demonstrate leadership and camping skills before an appreciative audience.
- Arrowmen promote camping.
- Arrowmen help assure the future of Boy Scouting.
- Arrowmen provide cheerful service to Scouting.
- Arrowmen stir interest in prospective future members.
- Arrowmen give service to their council by sponsoring Cub activities.

Chapter 2 INVOLVEMENT

CHAPTER INVOLVEMENT

Chapters have a unique advantage in working with local Packs being that are in close proximity to them. Chapter members may already have relationships with local Cub Leaders. Arrowmen can also target the needs and wants of their local packs. A great way to let Pack leaders know that your Chapter wants to help is by attending Roundtables and letting your offer of service be known. Distributing a questionnaire may help target specific needs of local packs. Be sure to work closely with the District Program committee and District Executive to keep them informed of your plans as a Chapter.

LODGE INVOLVEMENT

The Order of the Arrow Strategic Plan for 2008 to 2012 calls for Lodges to be an integral part of their local council. Part of the focus of that Plan is on Webelos to Scout transition programs and Cub Scout camping. What better way to give service to your council than by aiding and supporting their Cub Scout program? Arrowman have a deep understanding of the importance of the Scouting movement. As positive role models, Arrowmen would lead Cub Scouts to emulate their leadership qualities and continue on the trail to Scouting. Let Packs know that your lodge would like to aid them in any way possible. The Lodge may also sponsor an award for those Chapters which host Cub Scout activities and/or are involved in the Cub program at the district level. Be visible, encourage, and promote future involvement in the Scouting movement.

SECTION INVOLVEMENT

On the Section Level, the conclave training program should include Session 5 – “The OA and Cub Scouting – The Order’s Role” conclave training initiative. This would be a great training session to inform lodge leadership about the different aspects of service their Lodge can provide to their Council’s Cub Scout program. The Section Officers may also want to host a Cub Scout Promotional Award. This will ensure that lodges are aiding their council’s Cub Scout program. (See Appendix B for sample award requirements.) The conclave could also be a great environment to host a few local Cub Scout packs. Involving Cubs in your afternoon activities would be a great way to entertain, inform, and inspire young Cub Scouts to join the Boy Scout program. This could be accomplished through Cub Scout attendance at dance performances, powwows, or the conclave show.

CUB SCOUT CHAIRMAN - OVERVIEW AND DESCRIPTION

To provide additional leadership opportunities, Chapters, Lodges and/or Sections may appoint a Cub Scout Involvement Chairman. This Arrowman would be responsible for targeting the needs of the Cub Program in the District, Council or Section.

The position would fall under the lodge or chapter program element of the organization. The chairman would communicate with the chapter/lodge and District/Council personnel on a regular basis. A mature, innovative Arrowman, knowledgeable in the elements of the Cub Scout program would be a good fit for this position. The Cub Scout Involvement Chairman may work closely with the ceremonies team, scheduling and arranging Arrow of Light and Webelos cross-over ceremonies. The Cub Scout Involvement Chairman may also spearhead a lodge sponsored program event for Cub Scout packs. The Chairman may choose to challenge Chapters within the Lodge by administering an award. It would be the Cub Scout Involvement Chairman's responsibility to evaluate the success of the committee on a year to year basis.

On the section level, the Cub Scout Involvement Chairman would be a yearly appointed operating committee chairman. His responsibilities would be to provide resources and guidance for lodges to become active with their Cub Scout program. It would be the Cub Scout Involvement Chairman's responsibility to encourage and promote active Lodge involvement in the Cub program. The Chairman may also choose to challenge lodges within the Section by administering a section-wide award. It would be the Cub Scout Involvement Chairman's responsibility to evaluate the success of the committee on a year to year basis.

It would also be beneficial for all chairmen to have completed Cub Scout Leader Fast Start. An adult with Cub Scout leadership background would be the ideal adviser to the Cub Scout Involvement Chairman.



Chapter 3 CEREMONIES

ABOUT THE CEREMONIES

There is no better way to be visible to local Cub Scout packs than to conduct Arrow of Light presentation ceremonies, Graduation ceremonies, and Blue & Gold Banquet performances. Cubs will be thrilled by the color and eloquence of regalia, parents will appreciate the special occasion, and Cub leaders will be excited and grateful of the help. Performing ceremonies for Cub Scouts may inspire a future lodge ceremony team member. Performing ceremonies is a great and easy way to reach out to Cub packs.

Ideally, these ceremonies should be performed in an outdoor campfire setting; for example, at a pack picnic. This allows for a more natural feel as well as for the use of torches, firepots, and other "special effects". If an indoor setting is preferred by the pack, candles should be used in place of firepots. Either the team or the Pack can provide the tokens called for in the ceremonies. When performing the speaking parts memorization is important, but try to become familiar enough with the part so the words come out naturally. Since these ceremonies do not tie in with the Order of the Arrow induction ceremony, sashes should NOT be worn.

The ceremonies on the next few pages are just a sampling of the variety of ceremonies which may be performed. Local ceremony teams may be challenged to write their own ceremony reflecting on local customs and traditions. A plethora of ceremonies may also be found online – the examples that follow are from <http://www.theceremonytable.com>. No particular ceremony is endorsed by the Order of the Arrow or the Southern Region, BSA.



CEREMONY #1

Materials needed: fire wood, water buckets, Arrow of Light board, paper, torch fuel, Spirit of Scouting candle arrows, tiki torches, candles, drum, matches, leather pouch for awards, shovel, and blanket.

Drum starts to beat. Slow tempo. Chief Akela enters the ceremony area, positions himself behind the council fire and faces the audience with head bowed. Medicine Man enters the ceremony area carrying a blanket. He places the blanket in front of the council fire and positions himself with his back to the blanket, facing the audience with his head bowed. Guide enters the ceremony area and lights the Spirit of Scouting Candle by the Arrow of Light Board. He positions himself on the west side of the ceremony area, facing the audience with his head bowed. Guard enters the ceremony area and positions himself on the east side of the ceremony area, facing the audience with his head bowed. When all are in position with their heads bowed the drum will continue to beat for a short time. When the drum stops, all will raise their heads. The Chief will start the four winds. The drum stops.

Chief Akela: (raises the feather flag) I am the North Wind. People say I am cold, but to you I will always bring the warmest of winds because you have been true-blue Cub Scouts and Webelos Scouts, and have always lived up to the Law of the Pack.

Medicine Man: (raises the dream catcher) I am the South Wind. I wish you good Scouting. Over hill and dale I have carried stories of you and your experiences. As Cub Scouts and Webelos Scouts, you have been happy, game, fair and a credit to your Den and Pack.

Guard: (raises the deer antler staff) I am the East Wind. I wish you well. I have spread the story of your fun and happiness in Cub Scouting with Pack ____ and how you lived up to the Cub Scout Promise and were fair and helpful.

Guide: (raises the bow) I am the West Wind. I would like everyone present to know that these Webelos Scouts did not walk the Cub Scout Trail alone. Each had the wonderful help of his parents. Parents, continue to help your boys to go and grow.

Guard: Chief Akela, there are some among us worthy of the highest award in Cub Scouting, the Arrow of Light.

Chief Akela: (tilts the feather flag towards Guard) My brother, - seek them out that are worthy of this award and bring them before our council fire.

Guard: It shall be done Chief Akela.

Guard goes among the audience and finds the Webelos Scouts who are getting their Arrow of Light. He forms them into a line and tells them to follow him. The drum beats

slowly. Guard slowly leads the Webelos to the Guide. He stops when he is about two feet away. He raises his right hand in the Cub Scout sign. The drum stops.

Guard: Hakola.

Guide: Hakola. Who are these who follow the path of the arrow?

Guide: These are they who are worthy of the Arrow of Light.

Guide: Go forth, seek the arrow on the upward trail.

The drum starts to beat. Guard leads the Webelos to the Medicine Man. The drum stops.

Guard: Hakola.

Medicine Man: Hakola. Who are these who follow the path of the arrow?

Guard: These are they who are worthy of the Arrow of Light.

Medicine Man: Go forth, seek the arrow on the upward trail.

The drum starts to beat. Guard leads the Webelos to the Chief Akela. The drum stops.

Guard: Hakola.

Chief Akela: Hakola. Who are these who follow the path of the arrow?

Guard: These are they who are worthy of the Arrow of Light.

Chief Akela: Go forth, seek the arrow on the upward trail.

The drum starts to beat. Guard leads the Webelos to the blanket and tells them to stand facing Chief Akela. The drum stops.

Chief Akela: Webelos Scouts, listen to the story of the arrow.

Fire Keeper, who is hidden from the audience, reads the story of the arrow.

In the ages past, when the Nations of the red man spread across the land, there was a young member of one tribe called Akela. Akela wished to be a warrior as the older men of his tribe were, but no one would consider him so. "Little Akela, he is too young to join the hunt," they would say. "Too slow to run with the Bobcat clan, not clever enough to hunt with the Wolf clan. Such a young one is not strong enough to join the Bear clan." No matter how hard Akela worked, all ways were barred to him. But the Aged Chieftain of the tribe saw Akela differently than the rest. "The spirit of this young one burns brighter than the largest fire. Akela has served his

brethren well for one of his age. The time will come when the tribe will need only that which Akela can give." One night in the fall during the harvest, a party of warriors was canoeing back to their village after a hunt. On this night, the fog rolled thick across the river. The fog was so heavy the river path back to the village was hidden from view. Another nearby river path led to a roaring chasm. The warriors did not know the safe path to take and were trapped. Akela had been practicing his hunting skills in the hills above the river and had seen the danger to the canoe. He wrapped an arrow in a skin, set it aflame, and shot it into the sky toward the safe river path. The warriors in the canoe saw the flaming arrow through the fog and followed it to the river path and the village. The warriors went to the Chieftain saying, "We were trapped on the river and the high father sent an Arrow of Light through the sky to guide us." The Chieftain smiled and said, "The sign that led you to safety came not from the heavens but from one who you thought was too young to do anything." He brought Akela forward to the surprise of the warriors. "Akela has proved himself worthy to wear the name of warrior. He has aided his brothers in their time of greatest need. Hereafter, all young members of our tribe shall become warriors only after meeting the challenges of the Arrow of Light. Let them each be filled with the spirit of Akela and follow his example of unselfish service to our brethren." And it was made so and carried through to the present day as you Webelos stand before us now, ready to receive the Arrow of Light.

The drum starts after the story of the arrow is finished. The Medicine Man walks over to the Arrow of Light board. When the Medicine Man is in position at the board, Guard leads the Webelos to the board and positions them facing it. Guide walks over and positions himself behind the Webelos. Guard walks to the side of the Arrow of Light board to read the meaning of the seven virtues. The drum stops.

Guard: The seven candles represent the rays in the Arrow of Light. As they are lighted, you will hear how they stand for the seven great virtues of life.

Medicine Man lights the first candle and says the name of the candle, while Guard recites the script for the seven virtues.

Medicine Man: Reads script for Seven Virtues.

SEVEN VIRTUES OF LIFE:

1. WISDOM - Wisdom does not necessarily mean superior knowledge. It means putting to the right use, the knowledge that one possesses.
2. COURAGE - Courage is not the quality that enables men to meet danger without fear. It is being able to meet danger in spite of one's fear.
3. SELF-CONTROL - Self-control isn't limited to the control of one's temper but control of one's self in all things.

4. JUSTICE - Justice is the practice of dealing fairly with others without prejudice or regard to race, color or creed.

5. FAITH - Faith is the conviction that something unproven by physical evidence is true.

6. HOPE - Hope means to expect with confidence. Always hope for better things to come.

7. LOVE - There are many kinds of love; Love of family, Love of home, Love of fellowman, Love of god, and Love of country. All these Loves are necessary for a full life.

When Guard has finished with all seven virtues he leads the Webelos back to the position in front of the blanket, facing the audience. Guide and Medicine Man return to their places by the council fire. Chief Akela tilts the feather flag towards Guard.

Chief Akela: My brother, go forth and seek out the parents of these Webelos Scouts and bring them before the council fire.

Guard goes out into the audience and finds the parents of the Webelos and brings them forward, placing them behind their sons. Guard returns to his position. Chief Akela then explains the Arrow of Light badge.

Chief Akela: The Arrow of Light Badge is the only Cub Scout Award that can be worn on the Boy Scout uniform. It serves as a link between the two programs and points the way toward new adventure in Boy Scouting.

Chief Akela gives out the large Arrow of Light Badge to the mother.

Chief Akela: Will you pin on the Arrow of Light Badge on the left pocket flap of your son.

Chief Akela gives each Webelos a miniature Arrow of Light Pin.

Chief Akela: Here is a miniature Arrow of Light Pin for you to pin on your Mother. Do so now, if she is present. Mothers, you should take pride in wearing the pin. It symbolizes not only your sons achievements, but that he has had your support during his time in Cub Scouting. He will need your continued support when he moves on to Boy Scouting.

Chief Akela then gives the cloth Arrow of Light Badge to the father.

Chief Akela: Here is your sons Arrow of Light Award, please present it to him now.

Chief Akela now gives each Webelos an arrow and shakes his right hand as a Cub Scout. Medicine Man helps pass out the arrows.

Chief Akela: These arrows have passed down from previous Arrow of Light recipients, so one day you may be asked to pass it on to Cub Scout who is about to receive their Arrow of Light.

Chief Akela and Medicine Man returns to their position after the arrows have been passed out. Chief Akela tilts the feather flag toward Guard.

Chief Akela: My brother, please escort these parents back to their seats.

Guard escorts parents to their seats and returns after they are all seated. Chief Akela tilts the feather flag toward Guide.

Chief Akela: My brother, please escort these Arrow of Light recipients back to their seats. Guard escorts parents to their seats and returns after they are all seated.

The drum starts to beat. Guard slowly leaves the ceremony area. Guide blows out the seven ray candles and slowly leaves the ceremony area. Medicine Man folds the blanket and slowly leaves the ceremony area. Chief Akela walks over to the Spirit of Scouting candle and carefully blows it out. The drum stops.

Chief Akela: This ends your Arrow of Light ceremony.

Chief Akela picks up the Spirit of Scouting candle and slowly leaves the ceremony area.



CEREMONY #2

The three principles (Chief, Medicine Man, Guide) enter from the rear and take their positions: Chief at the North, Medicine Man at the West and Guide at the east.

Chief: Cub Scouts, leaders, parents and guests; my brothers, the Medicine Man, the Guide, and I, the Chieftain, bring you greetings and salutations. We have come before you tonight to fulfill a prophecy spoken in the legends of our tribe.

Medicine Man: The words of the prophecy say that in the springtime of each year, young braves will be found who have met the challenges of Akela and are ready to become warriors. My brothers and I have watched your pack and have found such braves among you. We have come to present them with the highest honor: the Arrow of light. But before this can happen, they must take a journey through their memories.

Guide: Many moons ago, you entered the Cub Pack. The first challenges you encountered were from the Bobcat clan. As you met them, you learned what it means to be a Cub, the Law of the Pack, and the three words that would inspire you to meet all other challenges: Do Your Best.

Light firepot or candle.

Guide: Having started on the trail, you next sought to join the Wolf clan. Here you were met with twelve challenges, harder than the Bobcat tests, But with the cleverness of the Wolf itself, you met them and continued on your journey.

Light firepot or candle.

Medicine Man: Now the trail became darker and fainter as you came to the Bear clan. Again twelve challenges were presented before you. As you met them, your knowledge grew and your spirit strengthened. It was this strength of spirit, like the Bear, that prompted you to move onward.

Light firepot or candle.

Chief: As you neared the summit, you joined the Webelos clan. The time of your testing had begun. In the Webelos clan you began to learn about Scouting. Just as you learned the ways of the brave as a Bobcat, Wolf, and Bear, as a member of the Webelos, you learned the ways of the warrior.

Light firepot or candle.

Chief: In time, you earned the Webelos badge, blazing the rest of the trail on your own. Now at last you have reached the summit and the end of this journey. Let the Arrow of Light be conferred upon them.

Guide: Wait oh mighty chief! Before receiving this most high honor, they must hear it's legend so they may understand and appreciate what they are to receive.

Chief: My brother, let the legend of the Arrow of Light be known to all present.

Medicine Man: In the ages past, when the Nations of the red man spread across the land, there was a young member of one tribe called Akela. Akela wished to be a warrior as the older men of his tribe were, but no one would consider him so. "Little Akela, he is too young to join the hunt," they would say. "Too slow to run with the Bobcat clan, not clever enough to hunt with the Wolf clan. Such a young one is not strong enough to join the Bear clan." No matter how hard Akela worked, all ways were barred to him. But the Aged Chieftain of the tribe saw Akela differently than the rest. "The spirit of this young one burns brighter than the largest fire. Akela has served his brethren well for one of his age. The time will come when the tribe will need only that which Akela can give." One night in the fall during the harvest, a party of warriors was canoeing back to their village after a hunt. On this night, the fog rolled thick across the river. The fog was so heavy the river path back to the village was hidden from view. A nearby river path to the right led to a roaring chasm. The warriors did not know the safe path to take and were trapped. Akela had been practicing his hunting skills in the hills above the river and had seen the danger to the canoe. He wrapped an arrow in a skin, set it aflame, and shot it into the sky toward the safe river path. The warriors in the canoe saw the flaming arrow through the fog and followed it to the river path and the village. The warriors went to the Chieftain saying, "We were trapped on the river and the high father sent an Arrow of Light through the sky to guide us." The Chieftain smiled and said, "The sign that led you to safety came not from the heavens but from one who you thought was too young to do anything." He brought Akela forward to the surprise of the warriors. "Akela has proved himself worthy to wear the name of warrior. He has aided his brothers in their time of greatest need. Hereafter, all young members of our tribe shall become warriors only after meeting the challenges of the Arrow of Light. Let them each be filled with the spirit of Akela and follow his example of unselfish service to our brethren." And it was made so and carried through to the present day as you Webelos stand before us now, ready to receive the Arrow of Light.

Guide: Will the following Webelos and their parents please stand before us as your names are called.

As Guide recites or reads names, the Medicine Man should direct Webelos to make a line across the southern end of the circle. Parents should stand behind their son(s).

Chief: Before this honor is conferred upon you, I must see your devotion to the high ideals of Scouting. Therefore, I ask you all now to raise your right hand to the Scout sign and repeat with me, the Scout Oath and Law.

Raises hand in the sign of the Boy Scout and recites Scout Oath and Law with other principles and the Webelos who will be awarded the Arrow of Light.

Guide: Having met all of its challenges, it is our duty and privilege to award you with the highest Cub Scout honor: the Arrow of Light. *(To parents:)* Because of the support and

guidance you have given these braves, I give the Arrow of Light to you to present to them.

Medicine Man: My brothers and I also present you tokens from your pack. Keep this in remembrance of this occasion.

Medicine man moves forward and presents each Webelos with a token. As he presents the tokens, the Chief and Guide congratulate each Webelos with the Scout Handshake. If you are going to induct the Webelos into a troop at this time, continue with graduation ceremony, if not, skip to the closing ceremony.

Guide: Parents, you may be seated.

Chief: As we have said before, this ceremony marks an end of a journey. But even as this journey ends, another is just beginning. Here at the summit of Cub Scouting you have found the start of a new trail. This trail is a pathway that leads to the realm of our brothers in the sky, the Eagles.

Medicine Man: But the trail will also be long and difficult. As you journey, you must keep the spirit of Akela strong within each of you. It will give you strength and guidance as you move onward.

Medicine Man moves between the members of the Scout troop and the Webelos.

Guide: The time has come for you to begin on the new trail. To join the clan of the warriors: The Scout Troop. Each of you shall now cross the bridge and be welcomed by the Troop members.

Medicine Man: As the night is a bridge between each day, let this be a bridge for each of you to the fellowship of Scouting.

Medicine Man moves aside to let the Cub Scouts pass and cross the bridge. Webelos cross and are welcomed by a Troop member, after all have crossed and are greeted, Guide continues.

Guide: You may now be seated.

Chief: Once again, I congratulate you on your achievements. Having finished the work for which we were called to do, we now depart this gathering of your Pack. Before we go, I would remind you to keep Akela's spirit alive. Let it ignite a spark within each of you that will fan into a fire as you grow. *(Pause)* We challenge all the younger braves who are present to continue on your trails and strive to reach the summit and the Arrow of Light.

May the great master of all Scouts be with you until we meet again.

Principles silently depart.

Chapter 4 CUB SCOUT OPEN HOUSE

ABOUT THE OPEN HOUSE

This guide will help you hold a successful Cub Scout Open House. Promotion is key to any successful event. Get the word out early and often. You should promote your event in your community, local sporting activities, houses of worship, and other local events. Be sure to work with Council and District personnel to ensure it fits into their recruitment program.

The secondary purpose of this event is to highlight the Scouting movement as exciting to non-Scouters, parents of non-Scouters, and even cubs and scouts for continued inspiration. It is assumed that a flag opening and closing (with explanation) will take place. You should also explain the uniform, scout sign, handbook, trips, etc.

PREPARING FOR THE EVENT

Once you have a location for your open-house, you should draw up a layout of the setup. From tables, to speakers for a sound system, to where the O.A. dance team will perform; everything should be well thought out.

The event should begin with a welcome and, if available, a demonstration by the lodge's dance team. This dancing should last for only 3-5 minutes. The attendees should then be allowed to visit the many display tables that have been setup. Examples of these tables include: advancement, scout skills, camping, summer camp, fire building, cooking, and information about the Order. Afterwards, the group should be broken into two groups: parents in one and youth in the other. Parents should be given time to ask questions and youth should be given a craft or activity to work on. It is important that both groups should be close enough to see each other, but far enough away so people can focus on the speakers. Everyone should be gathered for a closing. Include a speech by both a youth and a adult leader, followed by a reception.

Different members of the lodge should be assigned to different presentations, and can also be assigned a Cub Scout leader and Cub Scout youth to work with. Ultimately, the lodge is responsible for organizing and carrying out a successful event.

PRESENTATIONS

Advancement: For advancement, the presentation should focus on ranks within the program, from Tiger to joining Boy Scouts. The many other badges and awards available to Cub Scouts should also be highlighted.

Scout Skills: A basic demonstration of pitching a tent, a short first aid demonstration, or other skills taught in Cub Scouting can be highlighted. These skills should introduce youth to opportunities that would not normally be available to them.

Camping: Camping is an integral part of Scouting, and many youth join Scouts because of the exciting experiences that camping offers. Camping trips and other outdoor events available to packs in your area should be highlighted. Summer camp should also be discussed, including the exciting activities available: swimming, boating, archery, bb guns, etc. A summer camp promotional video can be shown.

Fire Building: Fire building is a staple of any camping trip and can be a very interesting topic for younger children. Sample fire lays or a sample lighted fire as well as a short demonstration on building a fire lay should be displayed. The emphasis on safety should also be highlighted to calm parental fears.

Cooking: Discuss the different cooking equipment used on a camping trip, from stoves to pots and utensils. If the location allows, sample cooked meals should be displayed and attendees should be allowed to taste them. Foil meals and smores are among the many simple camp foods you can display.

Order of the Arrow: As the event leader, this is your opportunity to display the fun and brotherhood available in Scouting and in the Order of the Arrow. A display by the dance team or ceremonies team can fascinate young children and will be something they will remember as they approach the age when they are eligible to join the OA.

Parental Discussion: Adults in the groups should be brought together with adults who are assisting in organizing the event. Adults should describe more of the details of the Scouting program, but most importantly open the floor to questions. Discussion points should include the guiding principles of Scouting, the differences between Cub Scouting and Boy Scouting, and the different ways in which parents can get involved.

Youth Craft: This session should be fun and interactive for the attending youth. Another demonstration by the dance team, including a chance for the youth to take part in the dance, can be very exciting. A small Native American craft will interest the youth and also allow them to take something home with them; a beaded craft or small leather pouch can be simple crafts to do.

EVALUATION

During the closing or reception, a survey should be distributed which allows participants to evaluate the many presentations as well as to allow the lodge to collect contact information from the attendees. The evaluations will also provide helpful information for improving the event in the future.

Chapter 5

OTHER ASSISTANCE METHODS

CAMPING EVENTS

The most beneficial way Order of the Arrow members could assist the Cub Scouting movement is through positive promotion and presentation of outdoor activities. Below are samples of events that could be run. Another great way to get involved is to provide service to existing programmed events. (See Appendix B for a sample schedule.)

Advancement Event: Lodge can staff a round-robin event to help the cubs work on activity pins, sport loops, and their Arrow of Light. Different stations can be made to work on different topics. There should also be a booth to show what Boy Scouting and the OA has to offer the cubs after their crossover. The goal of the event is to help Cubs advance and to show them about Boy Scouting.

Native American Event: The lodge should use its dance and ceremonies teams to help staff and guide the cubs during the weekend. The dance team could perform and show the cub scouts some dances while the ceremonies team could help with different arts and crafts. An authentic Native American feast could be helpful to show Cub Scouts some Native American traditions. The goal of this weekend is to introduce Cub Scouts to Native American activities.

Blizzard Blast Event: Similar to a Klondike Derby weekend for Boy Scout troops, Cubs would be encouraged to travel as packs and visit different stationed events. Stations can include dog sled races, snowball tosses, and winter Frisbee. To incorporate an informative aspect to the weekend, some stations may demonstrate winter shelters, warm winter clothing, and winter survival techniques. This should be a one day event without any overnight camping for Cub Scouts or Webelos Scouts. The purpose of this weekend is to introduce Cubs to outdoor activities and events during the winter.

Arrow Quest Event: Chapters may sponsor an event which directly benefits the first and second year Webelos. Chapters may ask local troops for assistance. Arrowmen may demonstrate camping, cooking, and outdoor skills while covering the basic Arrow of Light and Scout rank requirements. This will also be an optimal opportunity for Troops to recruit potential members. The goal for this weekend is to bring Webelos Dens and Troops together.

Fun Event: Lodges would staff this event and brainstorm different games and other activities to make this weekend/day event a beneficial experience. Some suggestions are: icebreaker games, Frisbee, fishing, swimming, and boating. The goals of this weekend are to make sure the cubs have a really good time and promote Boy Scouting.

MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT DISPLAY BOX

Lodges and Chapters may put together displays for use at local community events and local Scout events to aid the membership recruitment and retention process. Examples of such events include mall shows, Scout shows, program kickoff events, blue and gold banquets, camporees, town or county fairs, Boy Scout anniversary displays, back to school nights, etc.

The following is a list of the items that could be included in a Cub and Boy Scout Membership recruitment and retention display box. The items should be older, from the 1950's to 1970's as these items are less likely to have been seen by Cub Scouts and far more interesting. Additional items are only limited by your imagination and budget.

- Boy Scout uniform
- Cub Scout uniform
- Copy of Boy's Life magazine
- Copy of Scouting magazine
- Webelos handbook
- Bear handbook
- Wolf handbook
- Lion handbook
- Boy Scout handbook
- Merit Badge books

The following are a list of optional items:

- Venturing uniform
- Cub Scout camping equipment (flashlights, knives, sleeping bags, etc.)
- Other Cub Scout items (pinewood derby cars, crafts, etc.)
- Patches and other interesting memorabilia

WHERE TO GO GUIDE

Analogous to a "Where to Go Camping" guide, Lodges may develop resources and information for their Council Packs on fun places to visit. Many Cubs became inactive due to a lack of programming by their Den or Pack leaders. Lodges may do research on parks, day outing events, and local establishments within the Council for Cub Packs to visit. Lodges may also establish a communicative network to inform Packs of appropriate venues which would make a great outing for a Pack. Since all Cub Scout camping is to be conducted by BALOO trained leaders and at a council approved site, a Cub "Where to go Camping Guide" could be a valuable asset for the council. You should coordinate with the council to insure all sites in your book are in fact approved by the council.

Things to include in the guide:

- Who – what age group is the event or place appropriate for?
- What – a description of the venue or park.
- When – when is the park open, what time of the year is the most appropriate, do they have special offers for scouting units.
- Where – directions to the park from major cities or landmarks within the state.
- Why – why would Cubs want to attend, what is unique to the venue?
- Additional information should include: websites, addresses, contact information, tour permits and medical forms.

CAMPING RESOURCES FOR PACK LEADERS

In the spirit of service and outdoor promotions, members could present camping demonstrations at roundtables, pack meetings and council events. As experienced campers, members should be available to answer Cub leader questions, and put Cubs at ease about outdoor adventures. Brothers may also share some of their enjoyable experiences in the outdoors, inspiring Cubs and their parents to get out and try it themselves.

The Order could also assist packs in obtaining necessary equipment for their activities, or providing information on where equipment may be obtained locally for rent or purchase. The Order can assist their council with Cub Scout Day Camp and Cub Scout and Webelos Scout Resident Camp.

PROMOTING OUTDOOR PROGRAM

Cub Scout Day Camp and Cub Scout Resident Camp are council sponsored activities. Day camp is an organized one to five day program for Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts, and Webelos Scouts conducted during the day or twilight hours and does not include any overnight activities. Resident camping is a council-organized, theme-oriented overnight camping program. Each year, councils change their overall theme; examples include Sea Adventure, Space Adventure, Knights, and the Circus Big Top.

Lodges may assist their council with effective promotion. Arrowmen can conduct promotions to incorporate the year's resident camp theme. Lodges can also aid in recruiting staff for Council programs. Arrowmen may volunteer to be a Den Chief for packs while at camp or to be site hosts, showing families their way around camp during check-in. Another dynamic addition would be for a group of Arrowmen to perform songs and skits at a closing ceremony.

Appendix A

CUB SCOUT INVOLVEMENT AWARD

ABOUT THE AWARD

Below is a sample of requirements that the Section may use to challenge the lodges during the year. The requirements will ask Lodges to be involved in their Council's Cub Scout activities and may be tailored for your Section or Lodge. The form should be signed by the lodge chief, lodge adviser, and also the Scout Executive.

SAMPLE REQUIREMENTS

1. Meet with the Scout Executive to discuss the Order of the Arrow's role and implementation of the program.
2. Develop qualified personnel to lead a committee, which will assist with the delivery of the program.
3. Deliver notification, via telephone e-mail or mail, of the Council's Cub Scout Camping Program and the Order of the Arrow's role in the promotion of the program to every pack/troop (for Webelos who will be transferring into troops) within the Council
4. Perform a presentation on the importance of the Cub Scout Camping program in relation to Boy Scouting at District Roundtables.
5. Number of packs in council: _____
Number of packs visited: _____
Number of Cub Scouts taking part in outdoor program: _____

EVALUATING THE SUBMISSIONS

Everyone applying should be required to complete requirements one through four, then a percentage should be calculated of the packs visited out of the total number of packs in the council. This percentage and the number taking part in the outdoor program should be used to determine the winner.

Appendix B

OUTDOOR WEEKEND SCHEDULE

SAMPLE SCHEDULE

Friday:

5:00 - 7:00pm – Registration
8:00pm – Opening Ceremony & Campfire
9:00pm – Crackerbarrel

Saturday:

8:00am – Breakfast
9:00am – Stations
12:00pm – Lunch
1:00pm – Stations
3:00pm – Camp Wide Game
4:00pm – Open Program
6:00pm – Dinner
7:30pm – Dance Team Performance
8:00pm – Campfire
9:00pm – Crackerbarrel

Sunday:

8:00am – Breakfast
9:00am – Closing Ceremonies & Awards Presentation

SCHEDULING CONSIDERATIONS

- Registration should be open until late, as many parents and their sons may show up late from work.
- On Friday night at the campfire, a ceremonies team should perform an original ceremony just for the weekend. Candles, reciting of the Cub Scout promise, and incorporating origins of the camp will provide a unique experience for the Cub packs.
- During the station portion of Saturday morning and afternoon, cubs can go to different exhibits incorporating the theme of the weekend. Each station should last an hour.
- The camp-wide game on Saturday afternoon should involve all Cubs. The event should also be Cub appropriate.
- An open program period would be a great way to build inter-pack camaraderie and enforce the relationships between Cub and parent/guardian.

C. Describe the project your lodge plans to execute:

D. What group will benefit from the project and why?:

E. Needs: ie; event location (days and time), props, etc

F. Committee Member Assignments:

Name	Assignment	Due Date

Appendix D SAMPLE LETTER

OVERVIEW

The following is a sample letter, offering the service of Arrowmen to assist in Cub Scout programs, which may be sent from the Lodge/Chapters to Pack and Den Leaders.

Mrs. Jane Smith
Cubmaster, Pack ____
123 Akela Avenue
Anytown, GA 01X34

Mr. John Jones
Committee Chairman, Pack ____
456 Webelos Way
Anytown, GA 01X34

Dear Mrs. Smith and Mr. Jones,

Today's Date, 2008

By way of introduction, my name is ____ and I am the Order of the Arrow Lodge Chief, a member of Troop ____, and a graduate of Pack _____. I write on behalf of the ____ Lodge, Order of the Arrow, to offer our assistance and support to your Pack. The Order of the Arrow ("OA") is Scouting's National Honor Society and has existed for over 90 years. The OA recognizes the need for service to all of the Scouting community and as part of its National OA Strategic Plan emphasizes promotion of Cub Scout camping and assistance with the Webelos to Scout transition. Locally, the OA lodge recognizes that today's Cub Scouts are tomorrow's OA members and that we need to take an active supporting role with our local Cub Scout Packs.

Our Lodge is here to serve. We have appointed _Name_ as our youth Cub Scout Committee Chairman and _Name_ as our adult Cub Scout Committee Adviser to help work with Cub Scout leaders like you. Their contact information is ____ and _____. Both of these individuals are willing and eager to help you decide how the OA can best help your Pack. They will then be able to bring other individuals and resources in the OA to you. In the past, the Lodge has supported other Packs by performing Arrow of Light ceremonies, Webelos to Scout crossover ceremonies, assisting with Open House membership drives and Cub Scout outdoor events. (Add sentence or two on other local Lodge efforts including Lodge sponsored Cub Outdoor Weekends). The Lodge also maintains a "Where to Go" camping guide that is tailored to include age appropriate activities and facilities for Cub Scouts. I am enclosing a copy of the current version.

The Lodge and its Cub Scout Committee would welcome an invitation to a future Pack meeting or some other event to discuss your Pack's needs and how the OA may best help you meet your goals. It is our hope that together we will build a stronger Scouting family.

Yours in Scouting,
Johnny Chieftain
Chief, _____ Lodge
_____ Council, BSA
(Address, Phone, Email, etc.)